

May 5, 2005

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Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am writing this letter because I am alarmed at the possibility of a significant rate increase to my telephone service. If the Federal Communications Commission proceeds to adopt a "Bill and Keep" program for telecommunications providers to compensate each other for using each others' networks, the resulting increase in my telephone bill will certainly strain my family's budget.

Rural Americans should not be put at a disadvantage economically or technically. Under "Bill and Keep," rural customers will not have access to the same telecom services at rates comparable to urban customers. Additionally, it will severely limit telephone companies' continued investments in their networks, communities, employees, and participation in the nation's communications advancements.

Please do not implement "Bill and Keep." It will be detrimental to my family, my telephone company, and all telecommunications users across the country.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark A. Gae

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